## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

NSC-05 H-02 DODE-00 EURE-00 /063 W

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P R 181713Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9514

INFO CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

CINC USNAVEUR LONDON

USLO SACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

USDEL MC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

CONFIDENTIAL BONN 06349

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: CONVERSION OF SUPPORT TO COMBAT FORCES

REF: STATE 85642 CONFIDENTIAL

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- 1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN KEPT INFORMED OF THE CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN USAREUR AND THE FMOD CONCERNING POSSIBLE STATIONING SITES FOR BRIGADE 76. THREE APPROACHES ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION: (1) STATIONING THE BRIGADE IN NORTHAG, (2) MOVING A GERMAN BRIGADE INTO NORTHAG AND STATIONING BRIGADE 76 IN CENTAG CLOSE TO THE NORTHAG BOUNDARY, AND (3) STATIONING BRIGADE 76 IN CENTAG AND TRAINING IT IN NORTHAG. NO POSITIVE CONCLUSIONS HAVE AS YET BEEN REACHED DUE TO SEVERE SPACE AND FACILITY LIMITATIONS BOTH IN NORTHAG AND CENTAG. EMBASSY FEELS THAT THESE LIMITATIONS ARE SO SEVERE THAT USAREUR/FMOD DISCUSSIONS MAY HAVE TO FOCUS LESS ON FINDING A SITE WHERE THE BRIGADE WOULD BE MOST USEFUL THAN TO FIHDING ANY SITE WHERE THE BRIGADE CAN BE KEPT TOGETHER AND HENCE REMAIN AN EFFECTIVE FIGHTING FORCE. FMOD WISHES TO BE HELPFUL. HOWEVER, IT IS CONSTRAINED BY ITS OWN VERY SIZEABLE CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM TO ACCOMMODATE GERMAN NATO-COMMITTED MAJOR COMBAT ELEMENTS.
- 2. EMBASSY FEELS THAT PLAN TO BRIEF THE DPC, MC AND SHAPE CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF BRIGADE 76
  IS USEFUL. BRINGING NATO INTO THE DISCUSSIONS
  MAY ASSIST IN FINDING A SOLUTION TO THIS KNOTTY PROBLEM.
  JUST HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO FIND SUITABLE SITES FOR
  MAJOR COMBAT UNITS, SITES WHICH CAN BE USED WITHOUT
  FIRST MAKING SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL OUTLAYS, IS HIGHLIGHTED BY THE FACT THAT DOD STILL HAS NOT
  APPROVED THE PERMANENT STATIONING OF BRIGADE 75 REPEAT
  75 AT WIESBADEN--APPARENTLY BECAUSE OF THE COSTS
  INVOLVED.
- 3. EMBASSY KNOWS OF NO SPECIAL FRG SENSITIVITY ON THE SUBJECT OTHER THAN THE OBVIOUS ONES WHICH OUR TWO COUNTRIES SHARE: I.E., ANY STATIONING OF BRIGADE 76 IN NORTHAG SHOULD BE DONE IN SUCH A MANNER SO AS NOT TO LEAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE U.S. EITHER IS REPLACING UNITS WITHDRAWN BY OTHER NATO ALLIES OR IS OFFERING OUR ALLIES AN EXCUSE TO WITHDRAW SOME OF THEIR NATIONAL UNITS.
- 4. EMBASSY HAD PREVIOUSLY ASKED EUCOM, USAREUR, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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USAFE IF THE U.S. HAS ASKED GERMANS OR OTHER ALLIES TO COVER U.S. SUPPORT REDUCTIONS. WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT NO REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE EITHER FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OR FOR THE ASSUMPTION OF THESE TASKS BY FORCES UNDER THE CONTROL OF ANY OTHER NATION.

5. THE FRG WAS INFORMALLY ADVISED THAT THE U.S. HAS TENTATIVE PLANS TO HIRE ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NATIONALS TO

PROVIDE SUPPORT FUNCTIONS PREVIOUSLY PERFORMED BY UNIFORMED MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN ARMED SERVICES. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HAVE VOICED THE OPINION THAT SUCH HIRINGS WOULD VIOLATE THE INTENT OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT. WHEN AND IF THE COMMANDS RECEIVE AUTHORIZATION TO HIRE THE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL, IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FRG ON HOW FOREIGN NATIONALS WILL CONTINUE TO PERFORM THESE TASKS DURING WARTIME.

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